Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 01109 091746Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 IGA-02 PA-01 PRS-01 IO-13 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 USIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 EURE-00 /095 W

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O 091720Z FEB 77 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0122
AMEMBASSY BONN NIACT IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL LISBON 1109

BONN FOR SYVRUD AND JACKLIN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, ECON, PO

SUBJ: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGAL

1. MARIO SOARES CALLED ME OVER THIS AFTERNOON, FEB 9, TO TELL ME GOP HAD STUDIED AGREEMENT ON \$300 MILLION LOAN AND WAS PREPARED TO SIGN IT. HE GAVE ME PRESS RELEASE WHICH HE AND FINANCE MINISTER (ALSO PRESENT) HAD DRAFTED JOINTLY. SAID IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO HIM THAT PRESS RELEASE BE ISSUED BEFORE HE DEPARTS ON VISIT TO EEC COUNTRIES THIS WEEKEND. EEC MUST KNOW THIS MATTER IS SETTLED. HE ASKED THAT RELEASE BE ISSUED JOINTLY IN WASHINGTON AND LISBON IN TIME FOR TOMORROW'S LISBON AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS.

${\it 2. PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE FOLLOWS:}\\$

BEGIN TEXT

AGREEMENT WAS CONCLUDED TODAY UNDER THE TERMS OF WHICH THE EXCHANGE STABILIZATION FUND OF THE UNITED STATES WILL LEND TO THE BANK OF PORTUGAL UP TO THREE HUNDRED MILLION CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 LISBON 01109 091746Z

DOLLARS FOR FINANCING THE PORTUGUESE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT. THIS IS A SHORT-TERM OPERATION, PART OF AN OVERALL PLAN OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL ANNOUNCED BY THE UNITED STATES IN WHICH THERE IS ALSO INCLUDED A PROJECTED MEDIUM-TERM LOAN OF \$1.5 BILLION TO BE NEGOTIATED WITH THE UNITED STATES, EUROPE AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

A PART OF THE LOAN JUST NEGOTIATED WILL CONSIST

OF ADVANCES ON LOANS THAT PORTUGAL MAY OBTAIN FROM THE IMF. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF SUCH ADVANCES MAY BE BETWEEN APPROXIMATELY \$85 AND \$135 MILLION. THE REST OF THE LOAN NOT INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE-MENTIONED ADVANCES WILL CONSIST OF CREDITS GUARANTEED BY GOLD THAT WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL NEXT JULY. END TEXT. CARLUCCI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Concepts: TEXT, PRESS RELEASES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FINANCIAL PROGRAMS

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Subject: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGAL TAGS: EAID, ECON, PO, (SOARES, MARIO ALBERTO)

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